State of California



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Electricity Oversight Board's Response To The Electricity Market Startup

Today's start up of California's electricity market heralds lower, competitive electricity costs for California.

As the market opens today, business, commercial, industrial and agricultural customers are to reap the benefits of a competitive system, allowing them to select the best electricity service provider to meet their electricity needs.

"While the temporary delay in the startup of the system was disappointing, it was clearly a wise decision. Today, we open a reliable and service oriented market for California's electricity customers," said Roy A. Anderson, Chairman for the state's Electricity Oversight Board. "With an electricity system as large and as vital to California's economy, we needed to take the time to make the transfer to an independently controlled system seamless."

California's electricity supply system is a \$23 billion dollar industry. The transmission grid that will be controlled by the <u>California Independent System Operator</u> (Cal-ISO) is the fifth largest in the world with 45,000 megawatts, excluding the municipal utilities. The <u>California Power Exchange</u> (Cal-PX) will now operate the electricity commodities market which will provide real-time pricing for energy consumers.